

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /013 R

DRAFTED BY EA/J:STAFF:EH
APPROVED BY EA/J:RNKILPATRICK
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
EA ONLY, INR - MR. SYLVESTER, INR - MR. ED GRIFFIN
-----024720 090616Z /13

R 090002Z SEP 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
INFO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
CINCPAC
XMT AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 215793

STADIS/////////
CINCPAC - FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, EGEN, JA, US

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - JAPAN, SEPTEMBER 8, 1977

TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM EA/J - RICHARD KILPATRICK, ACTING

1. U.S. STEEL ANTI-DUMPING PETITION (UNCLASSIFIED)

FOLLOWING WEEKS OF RUMORS, U.S. STEEL CORP. CHAIRMAN EDGAR B. SPEER SAID HIS FIRM WOULD FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE USG CHARGING FOREIGN FIRMS WITH DUMPING IN THE U.S. HE SAID A NUMBER OF OTHER COMPANIES ARE EXPECTED TO JOIN IN THE COM-
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PLAINT. HE MADE THE STATEMENT AT A NEWS CONFERENCE CALLED TO CRITICIZE AS "ERRONEOUS AND DAMAGING" A RECENT MERRILL LYNCH STUDY (COPY OF WHICH HAS BEEN SENT TO EMBASSY) WHICH ASSERTS THAT JAPANESE STEEL PRODUCERS CAN UNDERSSELL U.S. PRODUCERS IN THE U.S. MARKET WITHOUT DUMPING. IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, MERRILL LYNCH ANNOUNCED SEPT 6 THAT IT HAS ASKED AN INDEPENDENT OUTSIDE CONSULTANT

TO COMPARE ITS REPORT WITH THAT OF THE AMERICAN IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY AND INFORM THE INSTITUTE AND MERRILL LYNCH OF THE RESULTS.

2. EXIM BANK COTTON CREDIT FOR BANK OF TOKYO (LOU)

CITING A DECLINING TREND IN COTTON PRICES AND CERTAIN OTHER FACTORS, THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INTERNATIONAL MONETARY AND FINANCIAL POLICIES, WHICH MUST APPROVE EXIM BANK CREDITS OF OVER 60 MILLION DOLS, RECENTLY VOTED TO APPROVE AN EXIM 75 MILLION DOLS CREDIT TO THE BANK OF TOKYO TO FINANCE COTTON EXPORTS TO JAPAN. THE PROPOSED DIRECT CREDIT WAS SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS FOR REVIEW SEPT 7, WHERE IT MUST REMAIN FOR 25 LEGISLATIVE WORKING DAYS BEFORE EXIM CAN GIVE FINAL APPROVAL.

3. FUKUDA LETTER TO PRESIDENT ON SIGNING OF PANAMA CANAL TREATIES (UNCLASSIFIED)

ON SEPTEMBER 7, AMBASSADOR TOGO CALLED ON MR. HOLBROOKE TO CONVEY PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER CONGRATULATING HIM ON THE OCCASION OF THE SIGNING OF THE PANAMA CANAL TREATIES. AMBASSADOR TOGO EXPRESSED HIS WISH THAT THE LETTER BE INCLUDED IN ANY PUBLIC REFERENCE THE PRESIDENT MIGHT MAKE REGARDING THE MESSAGES OF SUPPORT HE HAS RECEIVED. WE CONSIDER THE LETTER TO BE AN ESPECIALLY CONFIDENTIAL

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GOOD ONE AND HAVE TAKEN STEPS TO INSURE THAT IT WILL NOT BE OVERLOOKED AMONG THE MESSAGES OF SUPPORT NOW COMING IN FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENTS.

4. AMBASSADOR TOGO CALLS ON UNDER SECRETARY HABIB (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

AMBASSADOR TOGO CALLED ON MR. HABIB ON SEPTEMBER 6 TO ASK THAT HE CONVEY TWO LETTERS FROM THE AMBASSADOR TO THE WHITE HOUSE REQUESTING APPOINTMENTS FOR VISITING JAPANESE OFFICIALS. ONE LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT ASKS HIM TO SEE FORMER PRIME MINISTER KISHI ON SEPT 15. THE SECOND LETTER, TO THE VICE PRESIDENT, ASKS HIM TO SEE SASAKI OF THE DSP ON SEPT 15 AND YANO OF KOMEITO IN THE SECOND WEEK OF OCT. THE LETTER NOTED THAT THE AMBASSADOR WAS MAKING THESE REQUESTS AT THE DIRECTION OF PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA. BOTH LETTERS WERE SUBSEQUENTLY FORWARDED TO DR. BRZEZINSKI WITH THE RECOMMENDATION THAT THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT RECEIVE THESE VISITORS IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.

5. TTPI CORRUPTION PROBE BY INTERIOR (CONFIDENTIAL)

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HAS ASKED THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE IN INVESTIGATING CORRUPTION ALLEGATIONS INVOLVING JAPANESE FIRMS AND SEVERAL OFFICIALS OR FORMER OFFICIALS

IN THE TTPI. INTERIOR DOES NOT HAVE MUCH IN WAY OF HARD INFORMATION OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT SOME PERSONS WERE LAVISHLY ENTERTAINED IN JAPAN AND ONE HAD A SUSPICIOUSLY LUXURIOUS LIFE STYLE. WE ARE CONFERRING WITH THE JAPANESE EMBASSY THIS WEEK TO ASK GOJ ADVICE ON HOW TO PROCEED AND WE MAY EVENTUALLY ASK FOR THE EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IF THIS PROVES TO BE NECESSARY.

6. MIHARA VISIT (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

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JDA DIRECTOR GENERAL MIHARA RESUMES THE ANNUAL CONSULTATIONS WITH HIS US COUNTERPART HAROLD BROWN NEXT WEEK FOLLOWING A 1976 HIATUS. MIHARA AND SECDEF WILL DISCUSS US ASIAN STRATEGY AND FORCE LEVELS, BUDGETARY AND PROCUREMENT MATTERS, AND OTHER ITEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. BESIDES SECDEF, MIHARA WILL SEE SECSTATE, CNO AND PROMINENT FIGURES ON THE HILL DURING HIS TWO DAYS IN WASHINGTON. HE WILL DEPART FOR A TOUR OF VARIOUS U.S. BASES ON SEPT. 15. PREPARATIONS ARE GOING SMOOTHLY AND WE DO NOT EXPECT ANY COMPLICATIONS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE215793
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: STAFF:EH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770326-0984
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770980/aaaacppv.tel
Line Count: 146
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f33d9849-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1330042
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - JAPAN, SEPTEMBER 8, 1977 TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE FROM EA/J - RICHARD KILPATRICK, ACTING
TAGS: PGOV, EGEN, JA, US
To: TOKYO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f33d9849-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009